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II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences which might directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending Appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Pursuant to the final Office Action dated February 25, 2003, Claims 1-5 remain rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feister (U.S. Patent No. 452,933) in view of Yasuo (EP 0 895 183) and Garber (U.S. Patent No. 3,593,987). Thus, Claims 1-7 are pending in the application, with Claims 1-5 on appeal.¹

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

A Response was filed on July 23, 2003, after the Final Rejection; amendments to the specification and claims were presented. The Response was entered, as indicated in the August 15, 2003 Advisory Action. And according to the Examiner during a September 8, 2003 teleconference, the amendments overcame all objections and rejections, with the exception of the prior art rejection.

V. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a process for manufacturing sets of printed pages for the preparation of books. (Page 1, first full paragraph.) Paper is unrolled from a feed roller and

¹ The Advisory Action states that claim 1-8 remain rejected. However, during a September 3, 2003 teleconference, the Examiner confirmed to Appellant that all objections and rejections, with the exception of the prior art rejections, have been withdrawn. Appellant also notes that claim 8 was canceled in the Response to the final Office Action.

subsequently cut into a sheet of paper before the sheet is supplied to a printing machine, which prints bodies of text on the sheet. An electronic printing machine, which has a memory for the content of the bodies of text, and an electronic controller, which determines a surface area occupied by the bodies of text and parameters defining the bodies of text, are used to print the bodies of text with a symmetrical distribution with respect to a centre of symmetry of the sheet being printed and likewise symmetrically with respect to one or two axes of symmetry, which pass through the centre of symmetry and which are parallel with outer edges of the sheet, varying at least one of the outer edges of the bodies of text in accordance with dimensions provided therefor. (Page 2, lines 1-11 and 17-19; page 5, lines 5-19; page 6, lines 10-18; and page 6, line 26, through page 7, line 1.) The sheet is subsequently reversed in order to print bodies of text corresponding to reverse faces of the printed sheet. (Page 2, lines 11-15; and page 5, lines 20-22.) The printed sheet is then folded about one or both of the axes of symmetry in order to produce a set of pages which are cut at the outer edges in accordance with the dimensions of the printed pages of text. Finally, various sets of pages are joined and bound to form the book. (Page 2, lines 15-24; and page 5, lines 22, through page 6, line 9.)

The invention is thus based in dynamic printing, that is, a printing machine that dynamically displaces sections of groups of pages and adjusts parameters for a better arrangement. The invention permits different arrangements of pages and can manage this variability in flow whereby it is possible to modify the size of different sections with variations in the size and number of pages per section. Accordingly, the present invention permits the printing of books in a continuous flow, with varying sizes and different numbers starting from one single unit to a number of units without a need to stop the equipment for any adjustments including cutting, piling up the sheets and folding

the printed sections. This invention permits the printing houses to substitute physical stocks of books for electronic files, thereby providing a new system of distributed printing heretofore unknown.

VI. ISSUE

Whether Claims 1-5 were erroneously rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feister (U.S. Patent No. 452,933) in view of Yasuo (EP 0 895 183) and Garber (U.S. Patent No. 3,593,987).

VII. GROUPING OF CLAIMS

Appellant submits that Claims 1-5 stand and fall together. The reasons for patentability are set forth below.

VIII. ARGUMENTS

The claimed invention distinguishes over the prior art in that rather than being based in fixed printing it is based in dynamic printing. It is therefore possible to modify the size of the different sections with variations in the size and number of pages per section. More specifically, none of the applied references suggests printing bodies of text with a symmetrical distribution with respect to a centre of symmetry of a sheet being printed and likewise symmetrically with respect to one or two axes of symmetry, which pass through the centre of symmetry and which are parallel with outer edges of the sheet, as required by the claims.

The Examiner alleges that Feister, on page 1, lines 33-34, teaches folding sheets at their center margin. The Examiner also asserts that “[t]his can reasonably be interpreted to imply that

Claim 7 The process according to claim 1, wherein the sheet is arranged with its edge displaced with respect to a reference edge of a base carrying the sheet, printing being effected in accordance with coordinate axes of the base, to produce a lateral edge for gripping.

Attorney Docket No.: 02136/000J098-US0

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Fee Transmittal (1 page)

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Appellants' Brief on Appeal under 37 C.F.R. 1.192 (9 pages) in triplicate
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